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(54) Title: A METHOD OF INDUCING MELANOGENESIS IN HUMANS WITH MC1R VARIANT ALLELES

(57) Abstract: A method for inducing melanogenesis in a human subject having a melanocortin 1 receptor (MC1R) variant allele associated with loss of or diminished receptor function comprises administering to said subject an amount of an α -melanocyte stimulating hormone (α -MSH) analogue effective to induce melanogenesis by the melanocytes in the skin or other epidermal tissue of the subject.